

Matthews employs a wedging assembly 20, 26 for the purpose of securing a cutter.

The knife is shown secured in the trough 2 by means of a plurality of clamps 20. (*Matthews*, column 3, lines 1-2)

Thus, the wedging assembly 20, 26 of *Matthews* performs the function of *Basteck's* clamping jaw 19, not the function of *Basteck's* wedging assembly 32, 37. That difference is important because it leads to the reason why it would not have been obvious to modify *Basteck* in view of *Matthews* in the manner asserted in the Official Action.

In that regard, it is important to note that the function which *Basteck* is attempting to achieve is to accurately and predictably convert axial movement of the wedging device 37 into radial movement of the pin head 44.

A second mechanism is formed by the conical surfaces expanding the pin head 44, whereby the afore-said axial movement is once again stepped down into a radial movement of the regions of the pin head 44. Very accurate and sensitive longitudinal adjustment of the cutter 18 is thus possible. (*Basteck*, column 3, lines 25-30 – emphasis added)

In order to achieve that conversion in a predictable way, it is required that the pin head be held stationary while the wedging device 37 is tightened down. That requirement is met in *Basteck*, i.e., it is ensured that the pin head will not be displaced during the adjusting procedure, because the wedging device attaches directly to the stop pin 32. Any downward axial force applied by the head of the wedging device against the stop pin 32 will be totally countered by an upward axial force applied by the screw thread 38 of the wedging device 37 against the stop pin 32. Thus, the wedging device 37 will not generate any net axial forces tending to

axially displace the frictionally-held stop pin, so axial movement of the stop pin 32 will be converted directly into radial movement of the pin head.

The ability to achieve sensitive accurate adjustment of the cutter in that fashion would be destroyed if *Basteck's* wedging device 37 were directly attached to the holder. The reason is that as the wedging device is screwed down into the holder, the head of the wedging device would apply a downward axial force to the stop pin, tending to axially displace the stop pin downwardly, thereby displacing the cutter 18 independently of any radial expansion of the pin head. Even if there should occur a simultaneous expansion of the pin head 44, there will no longer take place the accurate conversion of axial movement of the wedging device into radial movement of the pin head needed to achieve *Basteck's* sensitive, accurate adjustment of the cutter.

In summation, *Matthews* does not employ his wedging assembly for the purpose of adjusting the position of a cutter, so it is not seen that an artisan would be motivated to modify *Basteck's* cutter-adjusting wedge assembly in view of *Matthews*, especially since such a modification would destroy *Basteck's* ability to make sensitive accurate adjustments of the cutter.

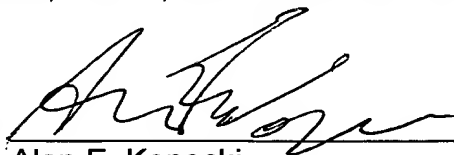
Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: October 29, 2004

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan E. Kopecki', is written over a horizontal line.

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